



EI-news

IRTS supporting Amateur Radio



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Youngsters On the Air
Estonia 2013

A youth radio camp "*Youngsters On The Air*" will be held near Tartu, Estonia from 5-12 August. The camp will be organised by the Estonian Radio Amateurs Union. During this week, teams of young radio amateurs from 10 different European countries will be participating in different activities: presentations, contests, visiting radio stations, an observatory, etc. Young operators or SWL's aged between 14-25, are being sought to represent Ireland. It has been confirmed that the 'European Union Youth In Action Programme' have provided 70% funding towards participants flights and accommodation. Further details are available from **Ger McNamara, IRTS Youth Co-ordinator** on 087 2532512 or by email to ei4gxb@gmail.com.

DXCC Programme Movers and Shakers

We have been keeping an eye on the changes to the **EI DXCC Listings**, which are updated regularly at www.irts.ie/dxcc and in 'Echo Ireland'. Over the past 12 months, we have seen the number of EI call signs participating in the DXCC programme rising from 59 to 71. Our DXers have been busy! We couldn't help noticing that one of the new EI entrants to the DXCC programme - Bernard EI4II - jumped in near the top, with more than 300 entities confirmed. Other big movers during the year

included Axel EI8JX (an active CW contester), Trevor EI2GLB, Dave EI6AL, Ger EI4GXB and Claus EI7JZ; Claus also holds the call sign OE6CLD, with which he has 338 current entities confirmed. While the "*Honor Roll*" (at least 331 of the 340 current entities confirmed) is the top achievement under the DXCC programme, another coveted distinction is the number of bands on which the minimum of 100 entities has been confirmed, the maximum being 11 bands (160 metres to 2 metres). The web site and *Echo Ireland* also include "Single Band Status" lists, which show that three EIs - Thos EI2JD, Dave EI3IO and Dave EI9FBB - have 10-band DXCC confirmed. Worldwide, just 6 radio amateurs have so far achieved 11-band DXCC - AA7A, DK5WL, F6BKI, JS3CTQ, ON4IQ and SV8CS; who will be the first EI to join this elite list?



Fishing for DX by Edwin EI2HEB

Recently I had to explain our hobby, and I was stuck a little bit; so I used a fisherman's analogy. Like a fisherman, we are fishing for that rare catch (DX). Others are fishing for quantity, like competition fishing. Others again are only looking for the odd fish, once in a while... "Oh", was the answer, "is that what it is, sitting and listening to catch a fish?" Not really; many of us will build our own equipment, our own reels (rigs) and rods (mast). The fishing line

(coax) is usually bought, but some will make their own line as well (ladder line). And that is not where it stops; lots of us will make our own tackle (antenna's) sometimes with a big hook (for 80/160m) and sometimes with a small hook (70cm). Each tackle will have another purpose for another fish. Sometimes you need to fish in the morning, for other fish it is better to fish and try to catch them in the evening or at night. Like fishermen, we operate on our favourite spot (home QTH), and throughout the year we try different spots (field days / events). When on different spots we use different reels, rods and tackle, to be quickly active and to start fishing. Sometimes we will use different bait (special call signs) to lure in the fish. There are different techniques, some will look for fish (browsing the bands) and some will sit and wait (calling CQ). We will talk to other fisherman, and exchange tips on the best gear, the best tackle to catch a fish, tricks of the trade. I am sure that each of us is asked from time to time to explain our activities. I am curious: What analogies are you using when explaining Amateur Radio? Do you have additions or corrections or even another spin on the fishing analogy? Happy fishing! Hope you catch that rare one!

Edwin EI2HEB



EI115MAR is a special call-sign issued to the **Howth Martello Radio Group** to celebrate the 115th anniversary of the first use of wireless to report live on a sporting event. This was during the Kingstown (now Dun Laoghaire) Yacht Regatta in July 1898. The group will be using this call-sign during the month of July especially on the weekend of 20/21 July. The **South Dublin Radio Club** will also be active during July using the special call-sign **EI115KR** and will be operating from the Maritime Museum in Dun Laoghaire (Kingstown).

SWL: Sporadic E Season

The FM bands have been awash with foreign signals the past few weeks, thanks to the start of the always exciting Sporadic E season. All of a sudden FM stations aimed at locals in Poland, Serbia, Italy, Portugal and other European and north African countries can temporarily appear alongside local Irish stations. Be sure to catch these interesting signals as you tune the bands.

Members Advertisements

For Sale: Kenwood 710E Mobile APRS Radio, Hardline Coaxial Cable 50&75ohm, Antenna Parts , Router Cable 8 core (new), 40ft Tower Standing or up and over.
Contact: Eamonn (Eddie) ei3ffb@gmail.com

Contests

All Times UTC

July 2013

6/7-24 Hrs from 1100z on 6th- DL-DX RTTY Contest- RTTY-Exchange:- RS(T)+ Serial Number
6/7 - 24 Hrs from 1400z on 6th - **IRTS VHF/UHF Field Day** - CW/SSB/FM- RS(T)+ Serial No.
13/14 -24 Hrs from 0000z on 13th-IARU HF World Championship- CW/SSB- RS(T)+ITU Zone
20/21-24 Hrs from 1800z on 20th - CQWWVHF Contest 6m/2m- EX: 4 Character Grid Square
27/28- 24Hrs from 2100z on 27th-RSGB IOTA Contest-CW/SSB- RS(T)+ Serial No+ IOTA Ref.

<http://www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-calendar>